



TORRANCE DANCE & DRILL TEAM

OFFICER CONTRACT 2015 – 2016

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Torrance Dance & Drill Team (TDDT) Officer. This is a part of TDDT that requires additional responsibilities. This area of Torrance Dance & Drill Team is competitive and not your traditional recreation team. You must tryout to secure a position as an officer and not everyone makes it. Those who do hold these positions are held to higher standards and greater expectations. Being an officer does not guarantee your place on any competition team. Please carefully read the following contract before signing as your signature represents your acknowledgment and acceptance of these standards and expectations. Additional registration fees for becoming an Officer will apply and all fees must be paid for prior to the start of the fall session.

Attendance

A particular amount of hours will be assigned for the officers to attend practices/rehearsals for the year. Regular and prompt attendance is required to all parades, performances and competitions. Excessive absences and tardiness will not be tolerated. When a tardy or absence cannot be avoided, the director must know 24 hours before class. Three tardies will equal one absence; a missed competition is equivalent to two absences. Three absences within each three month trimester (October 1 – December 31, January – March 31 and April 1 – June 30) will equal being benched from performing/competing. You will only be benched from the routine of the class where the absences occurred. An Officer who is benched from a performance/competition **MUST** still attend that performance/competition but will not perform/compete in that routine. An excused absence requires a doctor's note. If the absence falls the week before a performance/competition, the note must be given to the Director two days prior to the performance/competition in order to not be benched. If you do not arrive at the mandatory call time for a competition or performance and the Directors have made changes to the routine to accommodate your absence, you will not be allowed to perform in that routine at that competition/performance unless prior arrangements have been made. Officers may appeal all decisions to the Community Services Department. Appeals must be in writing and may be e-mailed to JFerguson@TorranceCA.Gov. Officers more than 5 minutes late will not be allowed to practice unless prior arrangements are made, but will be expected to sit and observe and are responsible for learning that day's class material/choreography on her own. Those who fall behind and/or fail to meet the needs of the choreography will not be allowed to compete/perform.

If an Officer is injured, they are to attend practice and take notes until they are well. This is to prevent them from making the injury worse, prolonging their recovery, and so they will not fall behind. They may not get up and join class.

Officers must attend and participate in all extra rehearsals as set by the Director. Every effort will be made to provide families as much notice as possible for extra rehearsals. Competitions are generally held January through June. Competitions are generally held on Saturdays but can involve more days.

All Officers must also attend the weekly technical class during the regular season.

Officers are also **required** to attend the summer session (15 classes/5 full sessions total) as choreography/technique will be taught. If summer sessions are not completed (12 classes/2 full sessions total), the Officer will be benched for the first performance of competition teams, but may perform in the full team numbers. Summer is an excellent time to take outside dance classes. Please ask the director or check the Torrance Season's Guide for information.

Dress Code

All Officers must follow the dress code for practice. The dress code is black dance bottoms and a black tank/form fitting shirt. Jeans, big T-shirts, and pajama pants will not be allowed. No boy shorts, biker shorts or crop tops. Proper dance shoes are required to be worn. Hair must be pulled back out of face during **practices**. Those who do not follow the dress code will not be allowed to rehearse.

All competition teams will have additional costume fees. Costumes are not determined until the choreography has been completed. The costume fees could range from \$100 – \$200 and may require a specific color of jazz shoes and/or accessories such as make-up and special style of tights. In addition, all Officers are required to purchase a team warm-up set, which includes a jacket, pants, and choice of a TDDT shirt.

Officer Responsibilities

All Officers are required to help raise funds for the team. Those who do not complete their fundraising obligations may not tryout for an Officer position or any competition teams the following year. There will be many fundraisers available for members to participate in and we will continue to do them until our budget is met. If a member is not contributing enough effort to fundraising, a meeting will be scheduled with the parent. Depending on the team’s budget, members may be asked to pay the team member’s cost for competition fees. All soloists are responsible for their own entrance fees.

Gossip, foul language, gum, jewelry, toys and cell phones will not be permitted at any TDDT parade/practice/performance. Respect towards all team members, Directors, visitors, parents, volunteers and fellow Officers is required. Those who don’t comply will be removed from practice/competition and/or sent home.

Officers must conduct themselves in a mature and responsible manner. If this conduct is not followed, Officer privileges will be suspended.

Officers must be willing to accept the following responsibilities:

- Use exemplary behavior.
- Have a positive and inspirational attitude.
- Be an excellent role model.
- Have respect for all team members, Directors, visitors, parents, volunteers and fellow Officers.
- Help the Director by giving direction and leading stretches.

If an Officer cannot meet these responsibilities, she will get two chances. First, suspension for a trimester, and second, demotion as an Officer.

Officers must abide by all other rules that govern the team and they will be strictly enforced.

It is imperative that Officers set a good example by following all rules. Officers need to be the first to follow the rules in a mature manner. It is important to remember that being an Officer is a privilege, not a right. Those who are officers are there because they wanted to be, not because they were required. Officers are chosen to help the Directors with what they need and to provide leadership for the team. Officers shall not abuse this privilege. Officers are **NEVER** to discipline other students negatively.

Any Officer who conducts herself in a manner unbecoming of an Officer, disobey the rules or is off task at practice or competition will have her Officer privileges revoked. Poor attitudes and disrespect towards all team members, Directors, visitors, parents, volunteers and fellow Officers will not be tolerated.

I, _____, have read and understood the guidelines for being an Officer for the Torrance Dance and Drill Team. I will make a commitment to the team and its Directors. I understand that the above rules will be strictly enforced and if I do not follow them, I will run the risk of being benched or having my officer privileges revoked. I am willing to audition for an Officer position freely and will commit my best effort and dedication to the best of my ability.

TDDT Member/Officer Signature

Parent Signature

Date